

Ian Paisley is a household word throughout Northern Ireland. Moreover he is known throughout the world as a fiery preacher of the Gospel of Grace and a staunch defender of the Faith.

Martyrs Memorial Free Presbyterian Church, Belfast, of which he is minister, is the largest Protestant church to have been erected in the United Kingdom since the war with a seating capacity of 3,000. It attracts the largest Sunday evening congregation in the United Kingdom.

Born in 1926, the son of a prominent Northern Ireland minister, he was trained for the ministry in the Theological Hall of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland. He was ordained to the Christian Ministry on 1st August, 1946.

While serving a prison sentence for refusing to sign a bail bond to stop his protests against ecumenism in the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. Carolina, USA, conferred on him an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

In 1951 he was one of the co-founders of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster and is currently Moderator of the Church which is the most rapidly growing Protestant Church in Northern Ireland.

In 1970 he won the seat in the Northern Ireland Parliament previously held by Lord O'Neill, the Prime Minister who had him twice imprisoned. In the same year he was elected to the British House of Commons for North Antrim. He subsequently came top of the poll in North Antrim at the elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly and to the Northern Ireland Convention.

He has authored many books and publications and preached in almost every State of the USA as well as across Canada and all over the United Kingdom.

This year he co-chaired with Dr. Bob Jones the World Congress of Fundamentalists at Edinburgh, Scotland.

P. F. N.
C. 1. 73
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